

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace, without prejudice, all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An expression ~~Expression~~ system for use in a producer cell line, containing one or more nucleic acid(s) comprising
 - a) at least one nucleic acid for an IL-15/Fc fusion protein,
 - b) at least one promotor and
 - c) at least one nucleic acid for a CD5 leader,the promotor and the nucleic acid for the CD5 leader being functionally linked to the nucleic acid for the IL-15/Fc fusion protein.
2. (Currently Amended) The expression ~~Expression~~ system according to Claim 1, in which the promotor is a CMV promotor.
3. (Currently amended) The expression ~~Expression~~ system according to Claim 1, in which the promotor is part of a transcription-regulating unit which additionally contains an intron.
4. (Currently amended) The expression ~~Expression~~ system according to Claim 1, in which the Fc part of the fusion protein is an Fc fragment of an immunoglobulin G.
5. (Currently amended) The expression ~~Expression~~ system according to Claim 1, additionally containing
 - d) at least one nucleic acid for a selectable marker gene.
6. (Currently amended) The expression ~~Expression~~ system according to Claim 1, additionally containing at least one nucleic acid for a polyadenylation signal.
- 7.-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A nucleic ~~Nucleic~~ acid, containing the components a) to c) of Claim 1.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A host ~~Host~~ cell, containing an expression system according to Claim 1 or a nucleic acid according to Claim 10.

13.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) A process ~~Proceess~~ for preparing an IL-15/Fc fusion protein, comprising

- a. providing a host cell according to Claim 12,
- b. culturing the host cell,
- c. selecting, where appropriate, and
- d. isolating the expressed IL-15/Fc fusion protein.

16.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ of expressing a protein in a CHO cell or a derivative thereof comprising

- a) functionally linking the nucleic acid encoding the protein to the nucleic acid encoding the CD5 leader; and
- b) expressing the protein in the CHO cells and or the derivatives thereof.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The expression system of claim 3, wherein the intron is intron A.